

Veterans Memorial Improvement Committee**Wednesday, January 14, 2015****Council Chambers, City Hall**

| <u>Members</u> | <u>Present</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Deloris Cass | _____ | <u> X </u> |
| Joseph Ruth | _____ | <u> X </u> |
| Leonard Smith | _____ | <u> X </u> |
| Rita Zito | <u> X </u> | _____ |
| Tom Davis | <u> X </u> | _____ |
| Doris Davis | <u> X </u> | _____ |
| Mary Cook | <u> X </u> | _____ |
| Arthur Eton EATON | <u> X </u> | _____ |
| Seth Gomoljak | _____ | <u> X </u> |

Also Present:**Bob Stumpff, Public Works Director; Julie Beavers, Recording Secretary****The meeting was called to order at 7:29 p.m.****1. Appointment of Chairman for 2015 (Per Charter)**

Ms. Zito motioned to nominate Mary Cook as Chairman. Mr. Davis seconded the motion.

All were in favor. **The motion passed 5-0-0****2. Review and approval of October 22, 2014 Minutes**

Ms. Zito motioned to approve the minutes as written. Ms. Cook seconded the motion.

All were in favor. **The motion passed 5-0-0****3. Discussion of November Veterans Day Ceremony**

- Speaker- Mary**

Lieutenant Colonel Vollmer was a wonderful speaker. His wife and family were present for the ceremony. He regretted not bringing brochures for his organization. Ms. Zito stated the Committee received a compliment from a veteran who attended the ceremony for the first time and he will be return for future events.

- Music- Mary**

Six Degrees Singers, an A cappella group, was unable to attend but will be ready to perform on Memorial Day. Ms. Sites was able to fill in and provide the music. Ms. Cook will contact the group soon for the Memorial Day event.

- **Gifts- Rita**

Ms. Zito made 60 packs OF TULIPS and had 15 left. Many people were pleased with the gifts again this year. Ms. Zito gave the extra to those veterans who could not attend.

- **Luncheon- Tom**

An officer at the American Legion spoke with Mr. Davis and stated that the American Legion would like to continue to host the luncheon. The food was excellent and well received.

- **Photography- Arthur**

The pictures went well. Mr. ~~Eton~~ EATON will put the pictures on a CD and give to Yvette Allen. Jim Robertson also took pictures and in touch with Ms. Davis, However, she has not heard from him since Veteran's Day. Ivy Christoffers would like a picture from Mr. Robertson for the Beltsville News.

- **Signs-Public Works- Bob**

Three (3) or four (4) of the white signs are at Public Works. Ms. Zito has two (2) signs at her house.

- **Advertising**

Ms. Zito mailed flyers to Attick Towers and Spellman House but nothing was posted at Attick Towers. Mr. Stumpff will make sure the flyers are given to Peggy Higgins who can then give them to both Senior Houses. Darcy Costello from The Diamondback wrote a wonderful article about the event.

- **Thank you notes- Doris**

Ms. Davis sent thank you notes to: Melissa Sites, The American Legion for the Luncheon and participation, The Boy Scout Troop, Joe Ruth, Veterans of Foreign War Committee members, Bettie Colonomos, Ivy Christoffers and Darcy Costello.

4. Old Business

- **University of Maryland Veterans Day Program- Rita**

Ms. Zito attended the program with Mayor Fellows. They parked at City Hall and walked over. Both the VMIC event and the UMD event were different and probably could not be combined. She suggested working with the University for help in seeking speakers and musicians. The UMD event was more formal. They had the marching band in full uniform and played the military hymns. They had a larger audience with the ROTC and two classes (for credit from their professors). Mayor Fellows may be able to help get some of their speakers.

5. New Business

- **Appointments- Mary and Seth**

Ms. Cook was reappointed and Seth Gomoljak was appointed to the Committee.

- **Plantings- Rita**

Ms. Zito will ask Brenda Alexander for her recommendation on the memorial but requests the flower will be a true red.

- **Award- Doris**

Tom ~~Barren~~ BARRETT from Public Works took the award and framed it and hung it in Public Works. The presentation of the award was given to Ms. Davis.

- Ms. Cook thanked the Committee for the nomination. She would like to start working on recruitment.

- There is a lovely wreath sitting at the memorial. It was given by the President of Wreaths Across America to the Branchville Fire Department. The wreath is fading and a member of the Public Works will take the wreath down. The flags will be saved. The Committee would like to write a letter to thank the president of the organization.

6. Next Meeting Date:

The meeting will be March 18th at 7:30.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Davis motioned to adjourned. Ms. Zito seconded the motion.

All were in favor. **The motion passed 5-0-0**

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Julie Beavers, Contract Secretary